

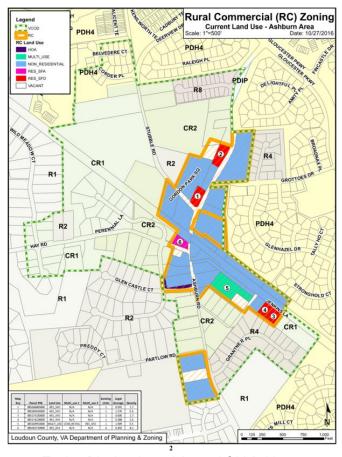
Newsflash

BOS Public Hearing, Wednesday, 15 March - Rural Commercial Zoning Ordinance

Old Ashburn is a treasure in the eastern portion of Loudoun County. I greatly value the character and quaint feel of much of the area and have enjoyed barbeque at the old Partlow's market many times! In fact, I have taken several actions during my time in office to help preserve the feel of Old Ashburn and improve the quality of life for area residents.

- SIDEWALKS: Very early in my term, I secured \$638,000 in funding to build a
 sidewalk on the eastern side of Ashburn Road from Partlow Road to the W&OD
 Trail. The project has been delayed due to right of way acquisition issues, but
 staff believes this phase of the project should be completed by this spring and will
 then move to issue an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for construction.
- HISTORIC DISTRICT: In the summer of 2014, I was approached by a property owner who planned to revitalize at least one historic building in Old Ashburn. He requested my assistance in creating a State recognized Ashburn Historic District. Despite opposition, I went all the way to the Office of the Attorney General to have the district created and listed by the Board of Historic Resources in the Virginia Landmarks Register. This enables property owners to apply for tax credits to help restore properties in the district. The district is also a part of the National Register of Historic Place Program.

https://www.nps.gov/nr/feature/places/14000865.htm



Zoning Districts In and Around Old Ashburn

Much of Old Ashburn is zoned Rural Commercial (RC). This zoning district currently allows a variety of both residential and commercial uses that are intended to reflect the variety of activities that one would expect in a traditional village setting. To review the zoning ordinance, click here.

Over the past several weeks, I have heard from many constituents about your concerns over several development applications that have been submitted in the Old Ashburn area. As you may know these development applications are approved administratively and are subject to meeting the requirements of the various ordinances and standards governing the development of property in the County. The Board does not have any role in the review and approval of these applications and the timing of approval by staff is largely driven by the ability of the applicant to address all requirements. These factors are clearly outside of the Board of Supervisors purview.

The Board did however, initiate amendments to the County Zoning Ordinance in March of last year regarding the lack of a density requirement in the R-C (Rural Commercial) Zoning District. That concern has progressed into a zoning ordinance amendment (Zoning Ordinance Amendment - ZOAM-2016-0014). It has been written by staff and was reviewed by the County's Planning Commission on 9 February, 2017.

The Board will hear these potential amendments at its 15 March, 2017 Public Hearing (6 p.m. at the County Government Center in Leesburg). The item can be read at this link: https://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?NID=3426. Citizens are encouraged to attend the Public Hearing to express their views on the ZOAM - it is currently number 11 on the agenda, but I will seek to move it earlier in the meeting to accommodate public input. In the meantime, as applications progress through the review process, those that have reached the stage of approval will generally be considered vested such that development approvals were gained prior to the adoption of new zoning requirements.

There will also be an opportunity to address the Board at the 23 March General Business Meeting during Public Input which starts as early as 6:30 p.m. To sign up, please call the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at 703-777-0200.

If you have any questions about this issue or any other, please feel free to call my office at 703-777-0205.

Kind regards,

Ralph.Buona@loudoun.gov | www.Loudoun.gov/Ashburn MSC #01 1 Harrison Street, S.E., 5th Floor Leesburg, VA 20175 Dorri O'Brien, Chief of Staff | 703-777-0205 | Dorri.OBrien@loudoun.gov

> Ashburn District, MSC #01, 1 Harrison Street, S.E., 5th Floor, Leesburg, VA 20175

About our service provider
Sent by ralph.buona@loudoun.gov in collaboration with



Try it free today